

Good and Bad Newes

From

IRELAND,

GOOD,

In the recovery of the Fort and Towne of
Kinsale from the Rebels, by the valour of di-
vers Noblemen, with other Commanders
of great note and courage.

BAD,

In the relation of a most detestab'le and unheard
of massacre, perpetrated in *Vansry*, upon the bodies of
Mr. John Davenant, his wife, children, and whole family,
by *Odonnell Mac Himel* an Arch-Rebell, and
neighbour to the foresaid Gentleman.

Written

By I. VV. a Factor in Dublin, to an
Alderman of this City.

Also the contents of a Letter lately sent to a
noble Gentleman of this Kingdome, and read in
the Honourable House of Commons.

Good and Bad Nerves

From

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July 7, 1916

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Ernest B. Dane,
of Boston.

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Good and bad Newes from IRE-
LAND.

MY being at Limbricke so long, must excuse my silence in the affaires of Dublin; in my departure thence, and returne to Corke, newes came suddenly thither that present morning being Twelfth even, Iannuary eleventh, 1641. both the Towne and Castle of Kingale were taken from the Rebels, and a most glorious victory obtained over them; all Corke ecchoing of this newes, and the poore English I am sure rejoycing seriously, as some Irish I am sure hung downe their heads apparently; I and *John Birges* with two more tooke horse that afternoone, & went forthwith to Kingale twelve miles distant from Corke, the rather because of my business with Mr. *Beklow* my Uncle, dwelling over the harbour three miles from that Towne, a right worthy and religious Gentleman, of whose welfare in these times I was desirous to be enformed; when we came to Kingale we found the Towne already in the po-

were of the English and reduced by the noble and
courageous attempt of *Sir Simon Harcourt*, and *Sir*
Thomas Temple, whose two Regiments had not
made an end of their execution upon the Rebels
in the Church yard, at what time we entred the
Towne, and I also assure you, the execution was
exceeding hot, these two great Commanders gi-
ving command to their souldiers, and crying to
their hearers, Souldiers, cut off all males, which I
assure you was done to the purpose; such pitifull
clamours and mortall groanings I never heard be-
fore, and desire never to see or heare the like again,
though of Rebels, whose former demeanour I am
sure had deserved it, could it have been worse, but
these two courageous cavalleers have fully as I sup-
pose paid some of their old scores, in the meane
time was the Earles of Kildare and Barrimore, with
my Lord of Castlelons busied with taking in of the
fort, having three thousand 500. men in their com-
pany, their Lordsh. had five good peeces with them,
yet the fort stands so strongly mounted, and so un-
approachable either by farre or neare assaults, that
their peeces could doe them little good, save that
by the advice of one *John Simons* a very skilfull gun-
ner, the artillery was drawne up a very steep nar-
row and broken passage in the rereward just before
the mouth of the forts gate, upon signall given the
said rereward very speedily, and in a good order
as for the straintesse and inconveniency of the place
could be expected, retired behinde the artilleries,
and caused the carriages to advance even to the ve-

ry gates; the Rebels whether out of misprision of
our forces that they were not so great as indeed to
their cost they afterward found them; or thinking
that our reward did indeed flye because they
cried at their retreat, *emine, emine*, the Rebels
hearing *emine*, forthwith issued out of the fort crying
Saint Patrick and the crosse, they flye; but the Can-
noncers, and especially *John Simons* did their duty
so well, that neither Saint *Patrick* nor the crosse
brought them very farre, for the Gunnes with such
dexterity let flye amongst them, with their five pec-
ces that were laden in such a manner, and such
stufte, that forthwith foure score and eleven of them
were upon the ground, some with more members,
some with lesse, and the fort wicket not onely beat
open, but sent fiftene yards in; our companies
forthwith advanced, and with the losse only of Mr.
Kreane an Irish man, but an honest man, recovered
the outward court; but at the gaining of the inward
our losses were more heavy, for there my Lord of
Castlecions was brained with a stone from one of
the battlements, and Mr. *Edward Spenser* shot
with a collever: to speake truth, the rogues shewed
great stoutnesse, and resolution before wee could
master them within the second court, and never
was quarter once demanded by them, nor offered
by us, at the last seeing themselves no way able to
hold out against us, either answerable to us in num-
ber or ammunition, they desperately carried their
powder and other combustible stufte into a kinde
of cellar or vault under the Fort hall, and as wee

were furious in forcing the inward gate of the Fort, upon a suddaine it flew open, our men following hot, followed the villaines unadvisedly into the said cellar, where the cursed captives blew up themselves, and some of our men; and thus God bee thanked is that strong Fort recovered, and I trust will be for hereafter better looked unto, commanding not onely that Towne, but all the Country thereabouts and all the whole harbour, and by a little cost might be made invincible; let us be wise at least after we have smarted.

But all the rest is not so pleasant, God tempereth our sweet with bitter, lest perhaps we should be too frolick. Decem. 20. being Thursday, was as execrable and dreadfull a murder acted upon the bodies of a worthy Gentleman, his wife and children, and whole family in the Vantry as ever I thinke was heard tell of in the memory of man; this Gentlemans name was Mr. *John Davenant*, Nephew unto the late Bishop of Sarum, he was a great Spilchard fisher in the Vantry, there dwelt by him one *Odonnel Smillewan* an incarnat Divell, who came into the house of the said Mr. *Davenant* with all his savage rebellious crue, who seazing the Gentleman and his wife, first bound them in o chaire, set them to the fire, then tooke their eldest sonne and spitted him before their face, laid him down to the fire, then caused the servant maid to turne him, after him the second, then a young tender daughter, next they abused his wife, after that roasted her before the poore Gentlemans face, who all the while provoked

voked them all he could, that so by that meanes hee might have his death hastned rather then to be thus tormented in the tortures of his dearest and nearest, the sight of whose miseries was to him a thousand deaths, at length they cut out his tongue, then his members, his legs likewise, and then roasted him; was ever such cruelty heard of amongst the very Canniballs! God grant the Kingdome of England may take some speedy course, not onely for prevention, but likewise for redresse and revenge of such unparalleled bloud suckers. This I thought good to intimate unto you being as certaine as lamentable, desiring you, and all true Christians therewith you, first to commend our case to God in your religious prayers, then to the King and Parliament how much you thinke it concernes.

*The extract of a Letter sent from Ireland, and
read in the House of Commons.*

That the Rebels are lately marched within five miles of Dublin & that the great Councell of England would be pleased to consider of their estate, and that present aid might be sent, or else Dublin is in danger of surprisall: Also that a thousand Spaniards and others that preserved themselves by swimming were in Ireland arrived in defence of the Rebels.

FINIS.